



# LAYER UP for the winter!

Just like wearing more warm layers protects you from the cold, you can layer up your COVID-19 protections.

As New Englanders, we know that to protect ourselves from winter weather, wearing a jacket helps - but adding a scarf, hat, and gloves is better. **Every added layer gives more protection**, and safer COVID-19 practices work the same way for winter gatherings!

**Protect yourself and loved ones: Add layers of protection by choosing practices on the safer side of the chart below.**

	SAFEST	MODERATE	RISKIEST
<b>Vaccination</b>	Everyone vaccinated; eligible adults boosted; children 5-11 partially or fully vaccinated	Mix of vaccinated and unvaccinated people	Many or most people at the event are unvaccinated or particularly vulnerable
<b>Attending</b>	Household members only	Local, vaccinated guests from an area of low COVID transmission	Travel to or from an area of high or substantial COVID transmission
<b>Location</b>	Outdoors/open air or virtual gatherings	Indoors with doors and windows open or cracked with fan running	Indoors with no fresh air circulating
<b>Distance</b>	Virtual gathering or single household only	People 6 feet apart, multiple tables	No distancing
<b>Masking</b>	Using masks regularly indoors when not home	Using masks regularly in higher risk locations	No masks used in public indoor spaces
<b>Testing</b>	PCR test done 48 to 72 hours ahead of event	Rapid antigen test before event	No testing

**Here's the bonus: These layers help protect against colds and flu as well!**

## 5-11 year olds are now eligible for vaccination!

Find a location by scanning the QR code on the right, or visit <https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>.

**Vaccination remains the strongest protection against COVID-19.**  
**Unvaccinated people are most likely to spread and get COVID-19.**

